



## Town Commission Agenda Item Report

**Meeting Date:** March 24, 2026

**Submitted By:** Edmund Malkoon, Mayor

**Submitting Department:** Town Commission

**Item Type:** Resolution

**Agenda Section:** CONSENT AGENDA

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**Subject Title:** RESOLUTION 2026-09: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING ADVOCACY EFFORTS WITH FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT AND STATE OFFICIALS TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA FOR ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITIZATION UNDER THE STORM SECURE UNDERGROUND PROGRAM (SSUP); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### Explanation:

#### Background

The Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea is a coastal community with unique exposure to severe weather conditions, including hurricanes, high winds, and salt-air corrosion. These conditions increase the vulnerability of overhead electrical infrastructure and contribute to a higher risk of power outages during storm events. Florida Power & Light (FPL) has implemented the Storm Secure Underground Program (SSUP), which is designed to improve electric system reliability by converting select overhead distribution lines to underground service in targeted areas based on established criteria. Recent discussions at the Commission level have highlighted the importance of exploring opportunities for Lauderdale-By-The-Sea to be considered for inclusion or prioritization within this program.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this Resolution is to formally express the Town's interest in engaging with FPL and State Representatives to advocate for evaluation and potential inclusion of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea in the SSUP program, request consideration of the Town's coastal exposure and infrastructure vulnerability, and support ongoing efforts by members of the Commission to initiate discussions with relevant stakeholders.

#### Key Considerations

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea's barrier island conditions expose the Town to elevated storm-related risks, and underground infrastructure is generally more resilient to wind-related damage. Reliable electrical service is critical for public safety, including emergency response operations, traffic control systems, and communications infrastructure. As a tourism-driven community, power outages can significantly impact local businesses, visitors, and overall

economic activity. Additionally, salt-air conditions accelerate the deterioration of overhead systems, while undergrounding may improve long-term system performance and reliability.

**Financial Impact**

There is no direct financial impact associated with this Resolution. This item does not commit the Town to any capital expenditure or undergrounding project and is limited to advocacy and engagement with FPL and State officials regarding eligibility and prioritization within existing programs.

**Strategic Value**

This action positions the Town to proactively advocate for infrastructure resilience, align with regional and state-level initiatives, support and formalize ongoing Commission efforts, gather information necessary for future policy decisions, and position Lauderdale-By-The-Sea as a potential pilot or priority coastal community for undergrounding initiatives.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Town Commission adopt the Resolution 2026-09 supporting advocacy efforts with Florida Power & Light and State Representatives to pursue eligibility and prioritization under the Storm Secure Underground Program (SSUP).

**Exhibits:**

1. Resolution 2026-09 - Support for FPL SSUP V2



27           **WHEREAS**, the Town Commission desires to proactively engage with Florida Power &  
28 Light and State Representatives to advocate for the Town’s inclusion, prioritization, or expedited  
29 evaluation under the SSUP program; and

30           **WHEREAS**, this advocacy effort does not constitute a financial commitment by the Town,  
31 but rather seeks to ensure that the Town is appropriately evaluated within existing utility resilience  
32 programs.

33           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF**  
34 **THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA:**

35           **Section 1.     Recitals.** Each “WHEREAS” clause set forth is true and correct and herein  
36 incorporated by this reference.

37           **Section 2.     Expressing Support for SSUP in the Town.** The Town Commission  
38 hereby expresses its support for engaging with Florida Power & Light and appropriate State  
39 Representatives to advocate for the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea to be considered for  
40 eligibility, prioritization, and/or expedited evaluation under the Storm Secure Underground  
41 Program (SSUP).

42           **Section 3.     Urging FPL to Implement SSUP in the Town.** The Town Commission  
43 encourages Florida Power & Light to consider the Town’s coastal exposure, storm vulnerability,  
44 infrastructure characteristics, and economic importance when evaluating potential SSUP projects.

45           **Section 4.     Acknowledgement of Efforts to Date re SSUP; Authorization.** The  
46 Town Commission acknowledges and supports ongoing efforts by a member of the Commission  
47 to engage with Florida Power & Light and State officials regarding undergrounding and resiliency  
48 initiatives, and authorizes the Mayor, Town Manager, or designee to assist in, coordinate, and  
49 further such efforts as appropriate, including facilitating meetings, information sharing, and  
50 evaluation of eligibility criteria.

